

Tuesday, August 04, 2009  
Contact Jim Hubbard  
(202) 225-2671

(ST. LOUIS) - Today, Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) continued pushing to for the successful "Cash for Clunkers" program at local dealership McMahon Ford, located at the intersection of Gravois and Chippewa.

The program was so successful that it began running out of funding in its first week. Congressman Carnahan and the U.S. House acted quickly to extend it last week. The program allows consumers to trade in their old, gas-guzzling cars for vouchers worth up to \$4,500 to help pay for new, more fuel-efficient vehicles.

**"'Cash for Clunkers' is a win for the consumer, the economy, the environment and the auto industry,"** said Congressman Carnahan. **"We're able to save American consumers money and save American jobs, at the same time we help our struggling auto dealers and continue down the path towards a clean-energy economy."**

The House extension passed last Friday had strong bipartisan support, 316-109, with Missouri Republican Representatives Roy Blunt and JoAnn Emerson's support. The original measure signed into law had the support of the Big Three, unions (AFL-CIO and UAW), car dealers, and business groups (NAM and the Chamber of Commerce).

**"This is a smart program that will help grow our clean-energy economy, cut down on pollution and save money at the pump as we reduce consumption by over 250 million gallons of gas,"** said Carnahan. **"It goes a long way towards getting Americans back to work and behind the wheel of a cleaner, more environmentally-friendly car."**

In July, Ford posted its first monthly sales increase for U.S. sales in more than a year and a half. The sales of both GM and Chrysler also improved after just one week of the program. The U.S. Senate must now act to supply the program with additional funds.

*Congressman Carnahan serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and has been pushing for "Cash for Clunkers" since March of this year when he joined Congresswoman Sutton in co-sponsoring H.R. 1550.*

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